S C R I P T

THE RAILWAY SERIES
SAMPLE EPISODE

DOWN THE MINE
Duration 5 minutes, including opening/closing titles
(taken from Book No. 8, pages 34-49)

OPENING TITLES - 30 seconds approx. NOTES

FADE OUT

FADE IN

NARRATION

One day Thomas was at the junction when Gordon shuffled in with some trucks.

"Poof" remarked Thomas, "What a funny smell!"

"I can't smell a smell" said Annie & Clarabel.

"A funny, musty sort of smell" said Thomas.

"No-one noticed it 'till you did" grunted Gordon. "It must be yours".

"Annie! Clarabel! Do you know what I think it is?" whispered Thomas loudly "It's ditchwater!"

But before Gordon could answer, Thomas puffed quickly away. Annie and Clarabel could hardly believe their ears!

But Thomas didn't care a bit.

"That was funny, that was funny", he chuckled. He felt very pleased with himself.

Annie and Clarabel were deeply shocked. They had great respect for Gordon The Big Engine,

Thomas left the coaches at a station and went to a mine for some trucks.

NOTES

Long ago, miners - di ing for lead -
had made tunnels under the ground.
Thought strong enough to hold up trucks,
their r ofs could not bear the weight
of engines.

"Silly old board" he thought. He had
often tried to pass it and had never succeeded.

But this morning he had made a plan.

He had to push the empty trucks into one
siding and pull out full ones from another.

His driver stopped him and the Fireman went
to turn the points.

"Come on" waved the Fireman and they started.

The Driver leaned out of the cab to see where
they were going.

"Now!" said Thomas to himself.

"Hurrah!" laughed Thomas and he followed the
trucks into the siding.

"Stupid old board" said Thomas
There's no danger, there's no danger".

"Look out" shouted his Driver.

Thomas squealed crossly as his brakes were
applied.
"It's quite safe" he hissed.

"Come back" yelled the Driver, but
before they could move there was a
rumbling and the rails quivered.

The Fireman jumped clear the ballast
slipped away and the rails began to sag
and break.

"Fire and smoke!" said Thomas "I'm sunk!"
..... And he was!

Thomas could just see out of the hole but
he couldn't move. "Oh dear!" he said "I
am a silly engine".

"And a very naughty one too", said a voice
behind him.
"I saw you".

NOTES

"Please get me out, I won't be naughty again".

"I'm not sure" replied The Fat Controller. "We can't lift you out with a crane, the ground's not firm enough. H'm, let me see ..... I wonder if Gordon could pull you out".

"Yes sir" said Thomas nervously. He didn't want to meet Gordon just yet.

"Down a mine is he? Ho, Ho, Ho", laughed Gordon.

"What a joke! he chortled, puffing to the rescue.

"Poop! Poop! little Thomas .....". "We'll have you out in a couple of puffs".

Strong cables ere fastened between the two engines.

"Are you ready? Heave!" called the Fat Controller.

NB Various heaving noises here!

It was a lot harder than they all thought..... but at last he was free.

"I'm sorry I was cheeky" said Thomas.

"That's all right Thomas. You made me laugh. I like that".

"I'm in disgrace". "I feel very low".

"I'm in disgrace too" said Thomas.

"Why! So you are Thomas Shall we form an alliance?".

"An Ally - what - was - it?".

"An Alliance, Thomas, 'United we stand, together we fall'" said Gordon grandly.

"Right you are" said Thomas.

"Good! That's settled", rumbled Gordon...

And buffer to buffer the Allies puffed home.

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